

Remarks

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 1-3 and 5-20 are pending in the application.

The Office Action questioned whether the references JP2-230655 and JP8-273617 from the IDS were submitted. The undersigned's records indicate that the references were submitted. Nonetheless, further copies are provided. Consideration of the references is requested.

The limitations of claim 4 have been included in claim 1. As claim 4 was indicated to be allowable, the prior art rejections are moot. Applicants are not conceding the correctness of the rejections.

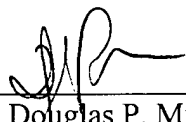
Favorable reconsideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____


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DPM/gr

